Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

Officer Involved Shooting

Report Date: December 1, 2015	Bureau/Station/Facility: Detective Bureau/Operation Safe Streets	Admin. Invest.? ☑ Hit? ☑

Incident Information

URN: 015-16025-0453-013	Date: December 1, 2015 Time: 1835 hours
City or Station: Norwalk	Nature of Incident: Suspect Gonzalez was shot by Deputies Dominguez and Velasquez after he pointed a handgun at Deputy Velasquez. Suspect Meza dropped his handgun and was arrested.
Location: 12645 Pioneer Boulevard, Norwalk	

Location Type (*check one or more*):
- ☐ Backyard
- ☐ Beach
- ☐ Business
- ☐ Freeway
- ☐ Industrial
- ☐ Park
- ☐ Parking Lot
- ☐ Residence
- ☐ Rural
- ☑ School
- ☐ Street
- Other:

Lighting (*check only one*):
- ☑ Darkness
- ☐ Daylight
- ☐ Other
- ☑ Street Lights

Weather (*circle only one*):
- ☑ Clear
- ☐ Cloudy
- ☐ Fog
- ☐ Rain

Distance: 15-20 feet

Incident Type (*check one or more*):
- ☐ Accidental
- ☑ Armed Person
- ☐ Fleeing Suspect
- ☐ Foot Pursuit
- ☐ Gun Take Away
- ☐ Moving Vehicle
- ☐ Sniper/Ambush
- ☐ Startle
- ☐ Struggle Involved
- ☐ Traffic Stop
- ☐ Unarmed Person
- ☐ Unintentional
- ☐ Vehicle Pursuit
- ☐ Warrant Service
- ☐ Warning Shot
- Other:

Initiated by (*check only one*):
- ☐ Arrest Warrant
- ☐ Call
- ☑ Observation
- ☐ One Person Unit
- ☐ Other
- ☐ Search Warrant
- ☐ Two Person Unit

Prior Activity (*check only one*):
- ☑ Detective
- ☐ Inmate Transport
- ☐ Other
- ☐ Routine Patrol

Aero Unit? ☑ Canine Unit? ☐

Total # of Shots Fired by Deputy: 4 to 7

Total # of Shots Fired by Suspect: 0

Employee Witnesses

Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.	ShiftTime (*check only one*)	ShiftType (*check only one*)
				☐ EM ☐ PM ☐ Day	☐ Regular ☐ Overtime ☐ Off Duty
				☐ EM ☐ PM ☐ Day	☐ Regular ☐ Overtime ☐ Off Duty
				☐ EM ☐ PM ☐ Day	☐ Regular ☐ Overtime ☐ Off Duty

Non-Employee Witnesses

Last Name	First Name	M.I.		
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]		
Street Address	**City**	**Zip Code**	**Work Ph**	**Home Ph**
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
Last Name	**First Name**	**M.I.**		
Street Address	**City**	**Zip Code**	**Work Ph**	**Home Ph**
Last Name	**First Name**	**M.I.**		
Street Address	**City**	**Zip Code**	**Work Ph**	**Home Ph**

Supervisors

Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.	(*check one or more*)
[redacted]	Moreno	Stephen	G.	☑ On Duty ☐ Present during shooting ☐ Witness to shooting ☐ Involved in shooting
				☐ On Duty ☐ Present during shooting ☐ Witness to shooting ☐ Involved in shooting

Watch Sergeant

Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.
[redacted]	Suarez	George	A.

Watch Commander

Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.
[redacted]	Chavez	Cynthia	A.

PSTD Use Only

SH # 2390966

Officer Involved Shooting
Involved Employee Information

URN: 015-16025-0453-013

Involved Employee

E 1

Employee # [redacted]	Last Name: Velasquez	First Name: Steven	M.I.: A.
Sex: M Race: H	Rank: Detective	Unit Assignment: OSS	Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.): 40G4
ShiftTime (*circle only one*): ☐ EM ☑ PM ☐ Day	ShiftType (*circle only one*): ☑ Regular ☐ Overtime ☐ Off Duty	Intoxication/Drug Usage? ☐	Substance Used: N/A
Hospital Admission? ☐	Hospital Name: N/A	Coroner Case? ☑	Coroner Case # 2015-08318 — Interviewed? ☑
Hrs of sleep prior to shooting: 6	Duty Time (hrs): [redacted]	Clothing (*circle only one*): ☐ Plain Clothes no Vest ☐ Plain Clothes w/ Vest ☐ Raid Jacket no Vest ☐ Raid Jacket w/ Vest ☑ Uniform no Vest ☐ Uniform w/ Vest	Other Factors:
Age: [redacted] Height: 509	Weight: 210		
Range Qualification Date: [redacted]	PPC Qualification Date: [redacted]	Laser Training Date: [redacted]	
Certified with Weapon Used? [redacted]	Patrol Certification? [redacted]	Certification Unit: [redacted] — Prior Shootings? [redacted]	Number of Prior Shootings: [redacted] — Directed Force: ☐
Weapons Fired Brand: Smith & Wesson — Caliber: 9mm	# Shots: 2 to 5	Weapons Fired Brand: — Caliber:	# Shots:
Field Training Officer Emp # [redacted]	Last Name: [redacted]	First Name: [redacted]	M.I.: [redacted]
Field Training Officer Emp #	Last Name: N/A	First Name:	M.I.:

E 2

Employee # [redacted]	Last Name: Dominguez	First Name: Adrian	M.I.: NMN
Sex: M Race: H	Rank: Detective	Unit Assignment: OSS	Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.): 40G4
ShiftTime (*circle only one*): ☐ EM ☑ PM ☐ Day	ShiftType (*circle only one*): ☑ Regular ☐ Overtime ☐ Off Duty	Intoxication/Drug Usage? ☐	Substance Used: N/A
Hospital Admission? ☐	Hospital Name: N/A	Coroner Case? ☑	Coroner Case # 2015-08318 — Interviewed? ☑
Hrs of sleep prior to shooting: 8 to 9	Duty Time (hrs): [redacted]	Clothing (*circle only one*): ☐ Plain Clothes no Vest ☐ Plain Clothes w/ Vest ☐ Raid Jacket no Vest ☐ Raid Jacket w/ Vest ☑ Uniform no Vest ☐ Uniform w/ Vest	Other Factors:
Age: [redacted] Height: 511	Weight: 220		
Range Qualification Date: [redacted]	PPC Qualification Date: [redacted]	Laser Training Date: [redacted]	
Certified with Weapon Used? [redacted]	Patrol Certification? [redacted]	Certification Unit: [redacted] — Prior Shootings? ☑	Number of Prior Shootings: 1 — Directed Force: ☐
Weapons Fired Brand: Smith & Wesson — Caliber: 9mm	# Shots: 2	Weapons Fired Brand: — Caliber:	# Shots:
Field Training Officer Emp # [redacted]	Last Name: [redacted]	First Name: [redacted]	M.I.: [redacted]
Field Training Officer Emp # [redacted]	Last Name: [redacted]	First Name: [redacted]	M.I.: [redacted]

E

Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Sex: Race:	Rank:	Unit Assignment:	Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.):
ShiftTime (*circle only one*): ☐ EM ☐ PM ☐ Day	ShiftType (*circle only one*): ☐ Regular ☐ Overtime ☐ Off Duty	Intoxication/Drug Usage? ☐	Substance Used:
Hospital Admission? ☐	Hospital Name:	Coroner Case? ☐	Coroner Case # — Interviewed? ☐
Hrs of sleep prior to shooting:	Duty Time (hrs):	Clothing (*circle only one*): ☐ Plain Clothes no Vest ☐ Plain Clothes w/ Vest ☐ Raid Jacket no Vest ☐ Raid Jacket w/ Vest ☐ Uniform no Vest ☐ Uniform w/ Vest	Other Factors:
Age: Height:	Weight:		
Range Qualification Date:	PPC Qualification Date:	Laser Training Date:	
Certified with Weapon Used? ☐	Patrol Certification? ☐	Certification Unit: — Prior Shootings? ☐	Number of Prior Shootings: — Directed Force: ☐
Weapons Fired Brand: — Caliber:	# Shots:	Weapons Fired Brand: — Caliber:	# Shots:
Field Training Officer Emp #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Field Training Officer Emp #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.

Officer Involved Shooting
Suspect Information

Suspect Information

S 1

Last Name: Gonzalez (Deceased)		First Name: John	M.I. A.
AKA Last Name: N/A		First Name:	M.I.
Sex: M Race: H	Street Address: [redacted]	City: [redacted]	State & Zip Code: [redacted]
Work Phone: N/A	Home Phone: Unknown	Social Security #: Unknown	Driver's License #: [redacted]
Age: 18 D.O.B. 05/28/1997	Height: 505 Weight: 140	FBI #: [redacted]	CII #: [redacted]
Booking #: N/A	Primary Charge: N/A	Secondary Charge:	
Coroner Case? ☑	Coroner Case #: 2015-08318	Intoxication/Drug Usage? ☐	Substance Used: N/A
Armed? ☑	Apprehended? ☑	Mental Illness? ☐	Criminal History? ☑
Vehicle Make: N/A Model:	Year:	Parole: No Probation: No	Prior Felony Conviction: No

S 2

Last Name: Meza		First Name: Jobani	M.I. NMN
AKA Last Name: Cruz		First Name: Benjamin	M.I. NMN
Sex: M Race: H	Street Address: [redacted]	City: [redacted]	State & Zip Code: [redacted]
Work Phone: N/A	Home Phone: (562) 986-3809	Social Security #: Unknown	Driver's License #: [redacted]
Age: 18 D.O.B. 04/30/1997	Height: 505 Weight: 140	FBI #: [redacted]	CII #: [redacted]
Booking #: 4514552	Primary Charge: 25400(A)(2) PC	Secondary Charge: 594(A) PC	
Coroner Case? ☐	Coroner Case #: N/A	Intoxication/Drug Usage? ☐	Substance Used: N/A
Armed? ☑	Apprehended? ☑	Mental Illness? ☐	Criminal History? ☑
Vehicle Make: N/A Model:	Year:	Parole: No Probation: Yes	Prior Felony Conviction: Yes

S

Last Name:		First Name:	M.I.
AKA Last Name:		First Name:	M.I.
Sex: Race:	Street Address:	City:	State & Zip Code:
Work Phone:	Home Phone:	Social Security #:	Driver's License #:
Age: D.O.B.	Height: Weight:	FBI #:	CII #:
Booking #:	Primary Charge:	Secondary Charge:	
Coroner Case? ☐	Coroner Case #:	Intoxication/Drug Usage? ☐	Substance Used:
Armed? ☐	Apprehended? ☐	Mental Illness? ☐	Criminal History? ☐
Vehicle Make: Model:	Year:	Parole: Probation:	Prior Felony Conviction:

S

Last Name:		First Name:	M.I.
AKA Last Name:		First Name:	M.I.
Sex: Race:	Street Address:	City:	State & Zip Code:
Work Phone:	Home Phone:	Social Security #:	Driver's License #:
Age: D.O.B.	Height: Weight:	FBI #:	CII #:
Booking #:	Primary Charge:	Secondary Charge:	
Coroner Case? ☐	Coroner Case #:	Intoxication/Drug Usage? ☐	Substance Used:
Armed? ☐	Apprehended? ☐	Mental Illness? ☐	Criminal History? ☐
Vehicle Make: Model:	Year:	Parole: Probation:	Prior Felony Conviction:

See Other Side

Officer Involved Shooting

URN: 015-16025-0453-013

Rollout Information

Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Date Submitted	Date of Recommendation
12/01/2015	2030 hours	03/01/16	

Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.
[redacted]	Godwin	Brian	D.
[redacted]	Dang	Luan	V.
[redacted]	Granek	Roberta	C.

Shooting / Force Information

Method

(AW) Arwen
(BC) Baton:(Control)
(BI) Baton:(Impact)
(BF) Bodily Fluids
(CN) Canine
(CR) Carotid Restraint
(CH) Choke Hold
(CT) Control Holds:(Control Techniques)
(TT) Control Holds:(Team Takedown)
(TD) Control Holds:(Takedown)
(CE) Chemical
(OC) Chemical Agents (OC Spray)
(TG) Chemical Agents (Tear Gas)
(EX) Explosives
(FH) Firearm (Handgun)
(FR) Firearm (Rifle)
(FS) Firearm (Shotgun)
(FO) Firearm (Other)
(FB) Flashbang
(FL) Flashlight
(OE) Other Weapon: Edged
(OV) Other Weapon: Vehicle
(OB) Other Weapon: Blunt Object
(OO) Other Weapon: Other
(PK) Personal Weapon: Feet/Leg: (Kick)
(PS) Personal Weapon: Feet/Leg: (Sweep)
(PH) Personal Weapon (Hand/Arm)
(PP) Personal Weapon (Push)
(PO) Personal Weapon (Other)
(RS) Resistance
(CN) Restraint Device (Capture Net)
(RH) Restraint Device (Handcuffs)
(HB) Restraint Device:Hobble (Legs Only)
(TP) Restraint Device:Hobble (TARP)
(RE) Restraint Device: REACT Belt
(SP) Sap
(SH) Shield
(SG) 37mm Stinger
(SB) Sting Ball
(ST) Stun Bag
(TR) Taser
(UC) Uncooperative

Type of Injury

(AB) Abrasion
(BR) Bruise
(BU) Burn
(CP) Complaint of Pain
(CO) Concussion
(DH) Death
(DI) Dislocation
(DB) Dog Bite
(FR) Fractures
(GS) Gunshot
(HB) Human Bite
(LC) Lacerations
(ND) Nerve Damage
(OD) Organ Damage
(PA) Paralysis
(PW) Puncture Wound
(SD) Soft Tissue Damage
(ST) Sprain/Twists
(UN) Unconscious
(RM) Refused Med Treatment
(NN) NONE

Body Part Injured

(AD) Abdomen
(AK) Ankle
(AR) Arm
(BK) Back
(BT) Buttocks
(CH) Chest
(EL) Elbow
(FA) Face
(FE) Feet
(FI) Fingers
(GE) Genitals
(GR) Groin
(HD) Hand
(HE) Head
(HI) Hip
(IN) Internal
(KN) Knees
(LE) Leg
(NK) Neck
(SH) Shoulder
(WR) Wrist

Brand

(AK) AK-47
(BN) Benelli
(BR) Beretta
(BW) Browning
(CH) Charter Arms
(CO) Colt
(DA) Davis Industries
(GL) Glock
(HA) Harrington & Richardson
(HI) Hi Standard
(HK) H & K
(IT) Ithica
(IV) Iver Johnson
(JE) Jennings
(LO) Lorcin
(LU) Luger
(MA) Marlin
(MO) Mossberg
(NC) NCI aka SKS
(NA) North American
(NO) Norinco
(RA) Raven
(RM) Remington
(RG) RG
(RI) RGI
(RO) Rossi
(SW) Smith & Wesson
(SR) Sturm Ruger
(SS) SIG Sauer
(ST) Sterling
(TA) Taurus
(WE) Weatherby
(WN) Winchester
(US) US Government
(YY) Handmade (Inmate)
(XX) Homemade (Non-Inmate)
(ZZ) Other Brand

Caliber

(9) 9 mm
(10) 10 mm
(12) 12 guage
(20) 20 guage
(21) .22-250
(22) .22 caliber
(23) .223 caliber
(24) .243 caliber
(25) .25 caliber
(30) .308 caliber
(35) .357 caliber
(36) 30-60 caliber
(38) .38 caliber
(40) .40 caliber
(41) .410 guage
(44) .44 caliber
(45) .45 caliber
(50) 50 mm
(SL) Slug
(WW) Other caliber

FORCE APPLIED (one code per block)

Used By (E# or S#)	Used Against (E# or S#)	Method (Code)	Brand (Code)	Caliber (Code)	Authorized Weapon? (Y/N)	Authorized Ammunition? (Y/N)	Type of Injury (Code)	Body Part (Code)
S#1	E#1	FH	HI	9			NN	
E#1	S#1	FH	SW	9	Y	Y	DH	AD, BK
E#2	S#1	FH	SW	9	Y	Y	DH	AD, BK

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY

INCIDENT:	**On-duty hit shooting, suspect deceased**
IAB FILE NUMBER:	**SH 2390966**
URN#:	**015-16025-0453-013**
DATE/TIME:	**December 1, 2015, 1831 hours**
LOCATION:	**12645 Pioneer Boulevard, Norwalk**

SYNOPSIS

On Tuesday, December 1, 2015, an Internal Affairs Bureau (IAB) team comprised of Lieutenant Roberta Granek, and Sergeants Brian Godwin and Luan Dang responded to 12645 Pioneer Boulevard, in the city of Norwalk, regarding an on-duty hit shooting. The shooting resulted in the death of Suspect John Gonzalez.

Detectives Frederick Morse and David Gunner from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Homicide Bureau arrived and assumed control of the homicide investigation. For further information regarding the homicide investigation refer to the Homicide case book, under URN #015-16025-0453-013 **[EXHIBIT A]**.

IAB Lieutenant Roberta Granek checked to ensure the Norwalk Station Watch Commander, Lieutenant Cynthia Chavez, took reasonable steps to ensure the involved parties and witnesses did not discuss the incident amongst themselves or with uninvolved persons prior to being interviewed by the assigned investigators. In addition, Lieutenant Granek also ensured Lieutenant Chavez knew the aforementioned parties should not collectively consult with their attorney or representative, and checked to see if Lieutenant Chavez attempted to have the involved parties and witness personnel gather in the company of a supervisor until they provided a statement to the assigned investigators.

On the indicated date, Detective Adrian Dominguez was driving his assigned black unmarked Ford Crown Victoria. His partner that night, Detective Steven Velasquez, was the front seat passenger. They were both assigned to Operation Safe Streets (OSS) and stationed at Norwalk Station. Although Sergeant Carlos

Herrera was their supervisor at the time, he had been off work for a "couple of months" and Detective Velasquez had been appointed as the acting sergeant for the Norwalk team.

Detectives Velasquez and Dominguez had already [redacted]. Their next planned stop was an apartment complex in the 12700 block of Pioneer Boulevard, where they intended to serve more subpoenas. The detectives knew that particular apartment complex to be a hangout for members of the "Night Crawlers" street gang.

Both detectives were dressed similarly; long sleeved Class A uniforms, with dress belts and Smith & Wesson M&P 9mm pistols in "pancake" holsters. Neither detective wore a ballistic vest, nor did they carry working hand-held radios, handcuffs, or less lethal weapons on their person. However, Detective Dominguez stated he had an expandable baton, handcuffs, extra 9mm ammunition, and a ballistic entry vest in the trunk of the vehicle he was driving. Detective Dominguez brought a hand-held radio with him that night; however, he discovered the battery was dead earlier in the shift.

Detective Velasquez stated the above described uniform was what he normally wore when he served subpoenas in the area. No supervisor ever told him not to wear that uniform for the described task. Detective Dominguez said he normally donned his complete gear, vest, gun belt, and all his County issued equipment when he planned to drive around and proactively stop gang members and gather intelligence. However, that night, he only planned to get a cup of coffee, serve a couple of subpoenas, and get back to the office to complete some paperwork. Detective Dominguez did not believe Sergeant Herrera ever gave him any direction about what uniform to wear while on duty in the field.

As they traveled southbound on Pioneer Boulevard from Imperial Highway in the city of Norwalk, nearing the aforementioned apartment complex, both detectives saw two young adult males walking northbound on the west sidewalk of Pioneer Boulevard, to their south. The two males, later identified as Suspects John Gonzalez and Jobani Meza, were both wearing hooded sweatshirts with the hoods over their heads, and baggy jeans.

Detectives Velasquez and Dominguez noted the two suspects' arms were not swinging normally and they appeared to be holding something close to their bodies. Both detectives believed the suspects were probably holding or trying to conceal weapons or contraband on their persons. Detective Dominguez notified Detective Velasquez he was going to stop their vehicle, so they could talk to the two males.

Detective Dominguez began bringing his vehicle to a stop at a slight angle to the west curb line, approximately 10 to 20 feet north of the two suspects. As he

stopped the vehicle and began putting it into park, Detective Velasquez opened the front passenger door and prepared to exit the vehicle. At that time, Detectives Dominguez and Velasquez saw both suspects reach for their waistbands. Both detectives saw Suspect Meza remove a chrome or silver revolver from his waistband with his right hand. As Suspect Gonzalez fumbled with his waistband Detective Dominguez yelled at Detective Velasquez, "Hey, Steve, 417, 417, Steve!"

IAB Note: 417 is the radio code for, "Person with a gun."

Suspect Meza ran northbound on the sidewalk, past the detectives' vehicle, still holding the revolver in his right hand. Suspect Gonzalez ran northbound as well, but lagged behind Suspect Meza. Suspect Gonzalez momentarily turned away from the detectives, facing to the east, as he did so, he stumbled slightly. He then spun to face Detective Velasquez and fumbled with a black handgun, as he removed it from his waistband with both hands.

Detective Velasquez exited the vehicle and began drawing his firearm. Simultaneously, Detective Dominguez exited the front driver side of the vehicle and drew his firearm. Detective Dominguez swung his body to the left and moved to the trunk area of the vehicle, using the rear portion of the vehicle as cover. He saw Suspect Meza sprinting northbound on the sidewalk with the revolver in his right hand.

Detective Dominguez commanded Suspect Meza to stop running. He thought about chasing Suspect Meza on foot, but at that time he heard Detective Velasquez order Suspect Gonzalez two or three times to drop a gun. Suspect Gonzalez did not heed Detective Velasquez' order. Suspect Gonzalez gained control of his handgun and held it with both hands near his waistband with the muzzle pointing toward Detective Velasquez.

Detective Velasquez believed he was in imminent danger and that Suspect Gonzalez was preparing to fire his handgun at him. He believed he fired three or four rounds at Suspect Gonzalez from a standing position on the street in the area between the open car door and the front passenger seat. Detective Dominguez heard the sound of the first gunshot and believed Detective Velasquez had been fired upon by Suspect Gonzalez. Detective Dominguez fired two rounds at Suspect Gonzalez. Suspect Gonzalez fell face down on the ground and his handgun fell two or three feet in front of him.

After firing his rounds, Detective Dominguez heard the sound of metal hitting concrete. He looked northbound and saw Suspect Meza lying on the sidewalk and the revolver he had been holding was on the ground five to seven feet away from him.

Detective Velasquez saw Suspect Gonzalez was breathing and moving slightly on the ground, but his hands were underneath his body. He ordered Suspect Gonzalez to show his hands, but he did not comply. Detective Velasquez walked toward Suspect Gonzalez and kicked his handgun in a southwest direction.

Detective Dominguez, who thought Detective Velasquez had been shot, asked him if he was all right. Detective Velasquez replied that he was okay. Detective Dominguez knew ideally he should hold Suspect Meza at gunpoint and use his radio to summon assistance. However, his hand-held radio had an uncharged battery and the other radio was mounted in the glovebox on the opposite side of the vehicle. He decided he should secure Suspect Meza first and then use the other radio to broadcast information regarding the shooting.

Before approaching Suspect Meza, Detective Dominguez confirmed that Detective Velasquez held Suspect Gonzalez at gunpoint. He then walked to Suspect Meza, while pointing his firearm at him, and giving him commands to keep his hands visible. Detective Dominguez stood behind Detective Meza and re-holstered his firearm. He grabbed Suspect Meza's hands and put them behind his back, as Suspect Meza offered no resistance. Detective Dominguez helped Suspect Meza to his feet and conducted a pat-down search of his person next to a nearby vehicle.

Detective Dominguez did not have any handcuffs on his person, so he utilized the strings on Suspect Meza's backpack to secure his hands behind his back. Detective Dominguez walked Suspect Meza back to the passenger side of his vehicle and had him kneel on the ground with his legs crossed behind him. Detective Dominguez utilized the radio mounted in the glovebox of the vehicle to broadcast he had been involved in a shooting, to request additional units respond code three, and to request an ambulance for Suspect Gonzalez.

Deputy Brandon Wicker arrived within seconds. Detective Velasquez asked him to search Suspect Gonzalez. While Deputy Wicker searched Suspect Gonzalez, Deputy Velasquez retrieved one of Deputy Wicker's handcuffs from a handcuff case. He handed the handcuffs to Detective Dominguez, who handcuffed Suspect Meza and placed him Deputy Wicker's patrol car.

As Deputy Wicker handcuffed him, Suspect Gonzalez mumbled incoherently and slightly moved his right arm. After Suspect Gonzalez was handcuffed, and Deputy Wicker completed searching him, he went limp. Paramedics arrived shortly after Deputy Wicker's search was completed. Suspect Gonzalez was pronounced dead at the scene by Los Angeles County Fire Department Captain Scott Coulter at 1846 hours.

Witness [redacted], who lived in the apartment complex just to the [redacted] of the shooting scene, said she heard "about four gunshots." She ran to her window, which faced to the [redacted] and saw a deputy pointing his firearm to

the north. She saw a male wearing a gray hooded sweatshirt lying face down on the ground. She head the deputy yell, "Stand down, stand down, stand the fuck down!" Witness [redacted] was "75 per cent sure" she then heard another gunshot and saw a muzzle flash from the deputy's firearm as he pointed the firearm to the north, away from the male on the ground.

Witness [redacted], who lived in the apartment complex just to the [redacted] of the shooting scene, heard shouting and then heard two, three, or four gunshots. He went to the [redacted] facing kitchen window and saw a "cop" holding a firearm pointed toward a person on the ground. He recorded a one minute and fourteen second long video of numerous deputies walking about the scene as Suspect Gonzalez lay face up on the ground.

OSS Lieutenant Brian Bishop visited the scene of the shooting later that night. He was the supervising lieutenant for the Norwalk, Lakewood, Pico Rivera, East Los Angeles, Lancaster, and Palmdale Station OSS teams, but had only been in that position for approximately three weeks prior to the shooting. Lieutenant Bishop stated there were two uniforms that were approved at the time for OSS detectives, based on unit orders; a Class A uniform or business attire. The authorized Class A uniform consisted of the uniform itself and associated safety equipment (flashlight, gun belt, ammunition case and ammunition, handcuffs, Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) spray, radio, and a helmet).

Lieutenant Bishop had not given Detectives Velasquez or Dominguez any instruction regarding uniform attire prior to the shooting. Sergeant Herrera never told him about having any interaction with the detectives regarding uniform attire. On the night of the shooting, after the incident, Lieutenant Bishop saw the two detectives were wearing "pancake" holsters and he explained to them they should have at least an extra ammunition magazine and handcuffs available when wearing "pancake" holsters.

In an interview with homicide detectives later that night, Suspect Meza admitted he had been carrying a chrome .38 caliber, six-shot revolver at the time of the shooting. He was also carrying two cans of spray paint in a backpack, as he intended to do some "tagging" in the area. His friend, Suspect Gonzalez, had a semi-automatic pistol, and was talking on a cellular telephone at the time the detectives pulled up near them. Suspect Meza said he did not know the vehicle that pulled up near them contained law enforcement personnel until he heard gunshots and looked behind him and saw a uniform. Suspect Meza admitted to being a member of the "Night Crawlers trese" gang, with the moniker of "Shadow."

During his IAB interview, Detective Velasquez referred to a uniform transition which had taken place around the time he was first assigned to OSS in February 2014. He was told at that time, perhaps by Sergeant Herrera, that they could no longer wear green pants and a raid jacket. At that time, OSS detectives were

directed to wear a Class A uniform or business attire. OSS bureau order number 2007-02, which had been last revised on June 3, 2015, and was in effect on the date of the shooting, stated OSS detectives shall wear either a Class A uniform or business attire. However, no direction regarding specific safety equipment was indicated therein **[EXHIBIT B]**.

Also during his IAB interview, Detective Velasquez presented an email he received from OSS Operations Lieutenant Tri Hoang on January 20, 2016. The email was sent to all sworn employees of OSS and included new OSS bureau order number 2015-3, which became effective on December 18, 2015 **[EXHIBIT C]**. The bureau order was titled, "Safety Equipment," and outlined the safety equipment that must be worn by OSS detectives when conducting field activities likely to result in citizen contact (gun belt, service firearm and holster, ammunition case and ammunition, flashlight, baton and holder, handcuffs and case, keeper straps, key ring holder, OC spray and holder, and radio holder).

This is a summary based on statements given during audio recorded interviews by the involved deputies and witnesses. Information gleaned from radio traffic and written reports is also part of the summary. For complete and detailed statements, refer to digital audio recorded files and verbatim transcripts, which are included in this investigation.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S LETTER OF OPINION

The Justice System Integrity Division of the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office reviewed the fatal shooting of John Gonzalez by Detectives Velasquez and Dominguez. In his letter of opinion **[EXHIBIT D]**, dated November 8, 2016, Deputy District Attorney James Garrison concluded Detective Velasquez acted lawfully in self-defense and Detective Dominguez acted lawfully in defense of others when they used deadly force.

INVOLVED EMPLOYEES AND WORK HISTORY

Steven Velasquez, Detective, #[redacted]
Special Operations Division
Operation Safe Streets

Work History

Date of Employment:	September 30, 1999
Date Assigned to OSS:	February 23, 2014
Date Completed Patrol Training:	[redacted]
Prior Shooting incident(s):	
Prior Founded Force Incidents:	

Equipment Worn On Person

None

Adrian Dominguez, Detective, #[redacted]
Special Operations Division
Operation Safe Streets

Work History

Date of Employment:	May 11, 2000
Date Assigned to OSS:	June 1, 2014
Date Completed Patrol Training:	[redacted]
Prior Shooting incident(s):	April 5, 2011
Prior Founded Force Incidents:	[redacted]

Equipment Worn On Person

None

SUSPECT INFORMATION

John Anthony Gonzalez
Male, Hispanic, DOB: May 28, 1997, 5'05", 140 pounds
[redacted]
CII #[redacted], MAIN #[redacted], FBI #[redacted]

> **IAB Note: A copy of Suspect Gonzalez' criminal history is included in the Homicide Investigation Book [EXHIBIT A, pages 147 to 154].**

Jobani Meza
Male, Hispanic, DOB: April 30, 1997, 5'05", 140 pounds
[redacted]
CII #[redacted], MAIN #[redacted] FBI #[redacted]

> **IAB Note: A copy of Suspect Meza' criminal history is included in the Homicide Investigation Book [EXHIBIT A, pages 139 to 146].**

SUSPECTS' INJURIES

Suspect Gonzalez sustained two gunshot wounds from two 9mm rounds; one to his right lower abdomen, and the other to his left lower back **[EXHIBIT A, pages 108 to 110]**. Suspect Meza was not injured.

SWORN PERSONNEL INJURIES

Neither detective was injured during the incident.

PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

All physical evidence was located and collected by Homicide Detectives Eddie Brown and Toni Martinez. They were assisted by Forensic Identification Specialist (FIS) Michael Bayer, and Crime Scene Investigators, Deputies John Chun and John Vanderschaaf, from the Sheriff's Crime Lab. For descriptions of the evidence collected and of where it was collected, see the Homicide casebook **[EXHIBIT A, pages 70 to 72]**, Deputy Vanderschaaf's Crime Scene Investigation Report **[EXHIBIT E]**, and FIS Bayer's crime scene diagrams **[EXHIBIT F]**.

Deputy Vanderschaaf examined Suspect Gonzalez' firearm and found it contained one cartridge in the chamber and eight cartridges in the magazine. The cartridge in the magazine had a firing pin strike to the primer. The thumb safety was active, meaning it could not be fired in that position; however, he noted the thumb safety lever was loose and the position of the lever could have changed after the gun was dropped or kicked.

Deputy Vanderschaaf also authored a Laboratory Examination Report after he conducted examinations of the recovered firearms for functionality and inter-comparison of fired ammunition components to previously examined duty pistols **[EXHIBIT G]**.

Detective Velasquez was fairly certain his firearm was loaded to capacity before the shooting (18 rounds). He was unsure if he fired two, three, or four rounds at Suspect Gonzalez **(refer to Detective Velasquez' IAB interview, pages 22 to 23)**. Crime lab photographs depicted three empty 9mm casings in the area in which Detective Velasquez fired his weapon **[EXHIBIT A, page 70]**.

Deputy Vanderschaaf received Detective Velasquez' firearm from Homicide Detectives Gunner and Morse. He believed the detectives relayed to him that Detective Velasquez' firearm and attached magazine contained 14 live rounds. Deputy Vanderschaaf counted the rounds at the scene and/or at the crime lab later that night. He noted at the time that 14 live rounds were present with Detective Velasquez' firearm; however, a photograph taken on the night of the shooting by crime lab personnel depicted Detective Velasquez' firearm, magazine, and 13 live rounds. Deputy Vanderschaaf could only speculate what may have happened to the 14th round **(refer to Deputy Vanderschaaf's IAB interview, pages 4 and 5)**.

Homicide detectives gathered video recordings from two video cameras which were affixed to the east facing structure of the [redacted] west of the shooting scene **[EXHIBIT A, pages 75 to 77]**. Homicide detectives noted the times on the

video recordings were accurate to real time. Following is a partial breakdown of events depicted in video #1 **[EXHIBIT L]** (both video cameras recorded a similar field of view):

18:30:00 – Video begins.
18:31:19 – Two suspects enter camera view from the south, walking northbound.
18:31:28 – Detectives Dominguez and Velasquez' vehicle enters camera view from the north.
18:31:29 – The two suspects run northbound.
18:31:30 – The OSS vehicle comes to a complete stop.
18:31:31 – One suspect falls to the ground.
18:31:32 – The second suspect runs northbound and out of camera view.
18:31:42 – Detective Dominguez walks out of camera view to the north.
18:31:46 – Detective Velasquez walks toward the suspect who fell to the ground.
18:31:52 – Detective Velasquez appears to kick an object away from the suspect on the ground.
18:32:34 – Detective Dominguez and the second suspect enter camera view, walking southbound toward the OSS vehicle.
18:34:09 – Deputy Wicker appears in camera view, walking southbound toward the suspect on the ground.
18:34:13 – Deputy Wicker kneels near the suspect on the ground and is approached by Detective Velasquez, who stands near him.
18:36:06 – Detective Dominguez walks northbound and out of camera view, escorting the second suspect.
18:36:07 – An unknown person walks southbound into camera view.
18:36:28 – A radio car drives up from the south, parks across the street from the scene, and two unknown personnel emerge from the vehicle.
18:37:12 – Deputy Wicker stands up.
18:38:00 – An ambulance arrives on scene.
18:39:26 – Ambulance personnel begin examining the suspect on the ground.
18:39:58 – Ambulance personnel leave.
18:40:07 – Los Angeles County Fire personnel begin examining the suspect on the ground.

INVESTIGATOR'S OBSERVATIONS

The scene was described in detail by Homicide Detectives Eddie Brown, Toni Martinez, and Jeffrey Cochran **[EXHIBIT A, pages 69 to 76]**. Their description of the scene was consistent with IAB Investigator's observations. The scene was photographed by Deputy Chun **[EXHIBIT L]**.

WEAPON USED BY DETECTIVE VELASQUEZ

Detective Velasquez believed he fired two, three or four rounds of Department issued 9mm ammunition from his Department issued Smith & Wesson M&P, 9mm semiautomatic pistol, with attached "SureFire" flashlight and 17 round

magazine. The firearm was examined by Deputy John Vanderschaaf of the Scientific Services Firearms Identification Section and found to be functional **[EXHIBIT G]**.

Date last qualified: [redacted]
Date last trained with weapon: [redacted]

Three fired cartridge cases were recovered from the immediate area in which Detective Velasquez stated he fired the rounds. They were identified as having been fired from Detective Velasquez' firearm. Three fired bullet fragments were located northwest of Detective Velasquez' firing position, in the parking lot of the [redacted]. The bullet fragments were identified as having been fired from Detective Velasquez' firearm.

WEAPON USED BY DETECTIVE DOMINGUEZ

Detective Dominguez fired two rounds of Department issued 9mm ammunition from his Department issued Smith & Wesson M&P, 9mm semiautomatic pistol, with attached 17 round magazine. The firearm was examined by Deputy John Vanderschaaf of the Scientific Services Firearms Identification Section and found to be functional **[EXHIBIT G]**.

Date last qualified: [redacted]
Date last trained with weapon: [redacted]

Two expended 9mm casings were recovered at the scene in the immediate area from which Detective Dominguez stated he fired the rounds. They were identified as having been fired from Detective Dominguez' firearm. A fired bullet fragment was located northwest of Detective Dominguez' firing position, in the parking lot of the [redacted]. The bullet fragment was identified as having been fired from Detective Dominguez' firearm.

WEAPON USED BY SUSPECT GONZALEZ

Suspect Gonzalez was armed with a Hi Point, model C-9, 9mm Luger semiautomatic pistol, which was loaded with one round in the chamber, and eight rounds in the seated magazine. Suspect Gonzalez pointed the firearm at Detective Velasquez. The firearm was examined by Deputy John Vanderschaaf of the Scientific Services Firearms Identification Section and found to be functional **[EXHIBIT G]**.

WEAPON USED BY SUSPECT MEZA

Suspect Meza was armed with a Smith & Wesson model 67, 38 special caliber revolver, which was loaded with six rounds. The firearm was examined by

Deputy John Vanderschaaf of the Scientific Services Firearms Identification Section and found to be functional **[EXHIBIT G]**.

PROPERTY DAMAGE BY SUSPECT GONZALEZ

None.

PROPERTY DAMAGE BY SUSPECT MEZA

None.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATORS AND CHARGES FILED

The criminal investigation into the shooting was handled by Detectives Morse and Gunner of the Los Angeles County Sheriff Department's Homicide Bureau. Suspect Meza was charged with vandalism, carrying a concealed firearm, and carrying a loaded firearm. He was convicted of carrying a concealed firearm and sentenced to three years in state prison.

LIGHTING AND WEATHER CONDITIONS

The scene was illuminated by light pole located in front of the scene at the grass median. The weather was clear and cool.

INVESTIGATION

IAB investigators interviewed the following Department personnel: Detectives Velasquez and Dominguez, Deputies Wicker and Vanderschaaf, and Lieutenant Bishop. The interviews were digitally recorded and transcribed. For complete statements made, more information, and precise wording, see attached verbatim interview transcriptions.

Detective Velasquez viewed four photographs during his interview **[EXHIBIT H]**. The first photograph depicted the uniform and equipment he was wearing at the time of the incident. The second photograph depicted the front passenger compartment area of the vehicle in which he rode in to the location. The third photograph depicted a view of the location, facing southbound. Detective Velasquez marked an "X" on the photograph to indicate the general area where Suspect Gonzalez was standing when he (Detective Velasquez) fired at him. The fourth photograph depicted a few of the scene, facing northwest. Detective Velasquez marked an "X" on the photograph to depict the general area where Suspect Meza lay on the ground as Detective Dominguez approached him.

Detective Dominguez viewed four photographs during his interview **[EXHIBIT I]**. The first photograph depicted the uniform and equipment he was wearing at the time of the incident. The second photograph depicted the front passenger

compartment area of the vehicle in which he drove to the location. Detective Dominguez marked an "X" on the photograph to indicate the general area where Suspect Gonzalez was standing when he (Detective Dominguez) fired at him. The fourth photograph depicted a view of the scene, facing northwest. Detective Dominguez stated the area where Suspect Meza lay on the ground as he approached him was not depicted in the photograph, as it was further north.

Deputy Vanderschaaf viewed two photographs during his interview **[EXHIBIT J]**. The first photograph depicted Suspect Gonzalez' Hi-Point 9-millimeter pistol. The second photograph depicted Detective Velasquez' Smith & Wesson M&P firearm, an empty magazine, and 13 live rounds.

Witness [redacted] drew a sketch during her Homicide interview, which depicted the location of her apartment and what she saw when she looked out her window at the shooting scene **[EXHIBIT K]**.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

A DVD containing video recordings from the location, Witness [redacted] video recording, as well as crime scene, autopsy, and other miscellaneous photographs was included with the case **[EXHIBIT L]**. Also included on the DVD were Homicide interviews of [redacted], [redacted], [redacted], and [redacted]. The indicated interviews were not transcribed, as they were not percipient witnesses.

IAB investigators attempted to interview Sergeant Herrera, but he retired from the Department, effective February 1, 2017. When contacted by IAB investigators via telephone on February 17, 2017, he declined to participate in an interview.